

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2179
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2005
MOBILE PHONES IN RURAL AREAS
Sidhu Shri Navjot Singh

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received suggestion for providing mobile telephones in Rural areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the Government's reaction thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (c) The Government grants licenses for provision of mobile service as a Licensor and the Licensed Operators including Private and Public Sector Undertakings provide the mobile telephone service in the country. As per conditions of Licence Agreement, there is no mandatory requirement to provide mobile telephone service in rural areas. It entirely lies on business decision of the licensed operator to provide mobile telephone service in rural areas.